



# **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

**Survey on the Perception of Palestinian Population  
Towards the Socioeconomic Conditions, April 2004**

**The press conference of the survey results**

**May, 2004**

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# **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

## **Survey on the Perception of Palestinian Population Towards the Socioeconomic Conditions, April 2004**

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**Press Release**  
**On the Main Findings of the Survey on the Perception of Palestinian  
Population Towards the Socioeconomic Conditions, April 2004**

**“The overall well-being of 47.1% of Palestinian households deteriorated in April 2004, and closure was an obstacle faced 41.4% of the Palestinian households during past six months”**

PCBS conducted the seventh round of the survey on the perception of the Palestinian people about the socioeconomic conditions. Data collection took place during the period 6/4/2004-20/4/2004 on a sample composed of 1,308 households, (924 in West Bank and 384 in Gaza Strip).

**Current Situation**

47.1% of interviewed persons reported that the overall well-being of their households is worse in April compared with a month ago (53.8% in the West Bank and 34.3% in Gaza Strip), while 8.4% reported that it is better (8.0% in the West Bank and 9.2% in Gaza Strip).

5.0% of households reported that the ability of households members to move around is significantly harder this week compared with a week ago (6.9% in the West Bank and 1.2% in Gaza Strip), while 1.4% reported that it is significantly easier (1.7% in the West Bank and 0.8% in Gaza Strip).

**Short-Term Expectations:**

About 14.3% of the respondents expected that overall well being of households will be much worse in a month time (16.3% in the West Bank and 10.5% in Gaza Strip), against 0.7% expected that it will be much better (0.9% in the West Bank and 0.4% in Gaza Strip).

23.5% of interviewed persons expected that the ability of households members to move around will be harder next month compared with interviewing week (32.9% in the West Bank and 5.8% in Gaza Strip), while 16.7% expected that it will be easier.

27.0% of interviewed persons reported that they are very pessimistic to find a job next month, while 0.8% were very optimistic.

**Mid-Term Expectations:**

About 16.0% of the respondents expected that overall well-being of households will be much worse in six months time (18.6% in the West Bank and 11.1% in Gaza Strip), against 1.9% expected that life will be much better (1.0% in the West Bank and 3.5% in Gaza Strip).

8.4% of interviewed persons reported that the ability of household members to move around will be significantly harder in six months time compared with interviewing week (12.4% in the West Bank and 0.8% in Gaza Strip), while 0.7% reported that it is significantly easier.

**Priorities of households:**

Data reveal that 37.5% of the households reported the need for food as a first priority, 20.8% the need for work, 19.9% the need for financial assistance, and 8.3% reported the need for educational services, while 7.9% reported the need for health services as a first priority.

**Priority Needs of Communities:**

About 48.6% of households reported the need for work, and 19.7% reported the need for facilities infrastructure, and 9.4% for health services.

Table 1: Main Changes on the Indicators of Attitudes of Palestinians in the Palestinian Territory

Indicator	نيسان 2004 *April (%)		آذار 2004 *March (%)		شباط 2004 *February (%)		كانون ثاني 2004 *January (%)		كانون أول 2003 *December (%)	
	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم
	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month
Percentage of households who expect better life	31.3	27.8	28.0	26.2	28.1	25.7	32.0	29.6	33.5	32.2
Percentage of households who expect better mobility (less mobility restrictions)	21.3	16.7	20.7	18.3	20.0	18.1	22.9	21.8	26.1	25.3
Percentage of unemployed persons who are optimistic to find a job	32.5	23.6	38.8	33.2	13.8	13.0	46.0	48.0	41.9	35.8
Percentage of persons who are optimistic to meet household basic needs	56.6	55.0	60.9	58.7	57.2	54.4	56.4	54.7	62.2	60.1
Percentage of persons who are optimistic to meet the community basic needs	47.5	43.8	53.8	47.6	47.4	42.8	50.8	47.3	42.5	38.9

\* Data Collection for December took place during 1/12-10/12/2003.

.2003/12/10- 12/1

\*

\* Data Collection for January took place during 3/1-26/1/2004.

.2004/1/26- 1/3

\*

\* Data Collection for February took place during 8/2-20/2/2004.

.2004/2/20-2/8

\*

\* Data Collection for March took place during 1/3-28/3/2004.

.2004/3/28-3/1

\*

\* Data Collection for April took place during 6/4-20/4/2004.

2004/4/20-4/6

\*

Table 2: Main Changes on the Indicators of Attitudes of Palestinians in West Bank

Indicator	نيسان 2004 *April (%)		آذار 2004 *March (%)		شباط 2004 *February (%)		كانون ثاني 2004 *January (%)		كانون أول 2003 *December (%)	
	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم
	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month
Percentage of households who expect better life	28.3	27.2	24.5	24.2	24.3	24.0	28.1	28.0	30.2	29.9
Percentage of households who expect better mobility (less mobility restrictions)	22.9	21.6	23.0	24.2	20.6	21.8	25.7	25.2	27.2	28.4
Percentage of unemployed persons who are optimistic to find a job	32.4	25.8	34.6	32.8	12.1	11.8	43.9	41.9	32.8	30.8
Percentage of persons who are optimistic to meet household basic needs	52.0	51.6	60.3	60.4	53.1	52.4	55.8	56.4	60.1	60.5
Percentage of persons who are optimistic to meet the community basic needs	40.9	39.7	49.8	47.6	40.9	39.0	46.8	45.7	38.3	36.9

\* Data Collection for December took place during 1/12-10/12/2003.

.2003/12/10-12/1

\*

\* Data Collection for January took place during 3/1-26/1/2004.

.2004/1/26-1/3

\*

\* Data Collection for February took place during 8/2-20/2/2004.

.2004/2/20-2/8

\*

\* Data Collection for March took place during 1/3-28/3/2004.

.2004/3/28-3/1

\*

\* Data Collection for April took place during 6/4-20/4/2004.

2004/4/20-4/6

\*

**Table 3: Main Changes on the Indicators of Attitude of Palestinians in Gaza Strip**

Indicator	نيسان 2004 *April (%)		آذار 2004 *March (%)		شباط 2004 *February (%)		كانون ثاني 2004 *January (%)		كانون أول 2003 *December (%)	
	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم	خلال الستة شهور القادمة	خلال الشهر القادم
	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month	Next six Months	Next Month
Percentage of households who expect better life	36.8	29.0	34.6	30.1	35.8	29.1	38.3	33.0	39.7	36.6
Percentage of households who expect better mobility (less mobility restrictions)	18.4	7.4	16.1	7.3	18.6	10.7	17.5	15.4	24.1	19.4
Percentage of unemployed persons who are optimistic to find a job	33.0	17.9	47.1	33.9	17.3	15.0	50.4	60.6	58.5	45.0
Percentage of persons who are optimistic to meet household basic needs	65.4	61.2	61.7	55.4	65.5	58.2	57.4	51.7	66.3	59.4
Percentage of persons who are optimistic to meet the community basic needs	59.2	51.1	60.6	47.6	59.1	49.4	58.0	50.1	50.4	42.8

\* Data Collection for December took place during 1/12-10/12/2003.

.2003/12/10-12/1

\*

\* Data Collection for January took place during 3/1-26/1/2004.

.2004/1/26-1/3

\*

\* Data Collection for February took place during 8/2-20/2/2004.

.2004/2/20-2/8

\*

\* Data Collection for March took place during 1/3-28/3/2004.

.2004/3/28-3/1

\*

\* Data Collection for April took place during 6/4-20/4/2004.

2004/4/20-4/6

\*



(2004 )

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**Table 4: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Overall “Quality of Life” Enjoyed by the Households Today Compared with One Month Ago by Region (April 2004)**

Attitude	Gaza Strip	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
	%	%	%	
A lot better today	0.6	1.2	1.0	/
Somewhat better today	8.6	6.8	7.4	
About the same/ Unchanged	56.0	38.0	44.2	
Somewhat worse today	22.1	39.8	33.7	
A lot worse today	12.2	14.0	13.4	
Don't know	0.5	0.2	0.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

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**Table 5: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Overall “Quality of Life” Enjoyed by the Households in the Future Compared with Today and Region, (April 2004)**

Attitude	Region and Time Period						
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	
A lot better from now	3.5	0.4	1.0	0.9	1.9	0.7	/
Somewhat better from now	33.3	28.6	27.3	26.3	29.4	27.1	
About the same /unchanged	37.7	47.0	19.5	23.2	25.8	31.4	
Somewhat worse from now	12.9	12.4	26.0	28.1	21.4	22.7	
A lot worse from now	11.1	10.5	18.6	16.3	16.0	14.3	
Don't know	1.5	1.1	7.6	5.2	5.5	3.8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

**Table 6: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Overall “Quality of Life” Enjoyed by the Households in the Future by Selected Characteristics (April 2004)**

Characteristics	Time Period				
	Next Six Months %		Next Month %		
	Worse %	Better %	Worse %	Better %	
<b>Age Group</b>					
15-24	45.0	33.3	34.1	26.9	24-15
25-44	36.4	31.4	36.5	28.0	44-25
45+	40.5	30.4	39.7	28.1	+45
<b>Refugee status</b>					
Registered refugee	33.3	35.0	33.5	29.6	
Non - Refugee	40.2	28.2	40.0	26.3	
<b>Education</b>					
Less than Preparatory	38.4	29.8	37.2	28.4	
Preparatory - secondary	36.8	32.1	37.1	27.2	-
Diploma and above	37.4	32.8	35.7	28.8	

(2004 )

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**Table 7: Distribution of Palestinian Households by the Level of Disturbance Caused by Restrictions on Mobility Imposed by Israeli Military Forces and Region, (April 2004)**

Level of Disturbance	Region and Time Period						
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	
A lot	24.8	23.5	50.5	43.8	41.4	36.6	
A little	11.9	12.0	27.3	26.8	21.8	21.5	
Not at all	63.3	64.5	22.2	29.4	36.8	41.9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

:8

**Table 8: Distribution of Palestinian Households by the Need of Medical Care for Households and Region, (April 2004)**

Need for medical care	Region and Period						
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	
Yes	79.0	74.0	64.5	61.0	69.5	65.5	
No	21.0	26.0	35.5	39.0	30.5	34.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

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**Table 9: Distribution of Palestinian Households by Ability for Household Member to Access Necessary Medical Care and Region, (April 2004)**

Ability to access medical care	Region and Time Period						
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	
Impossible	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.1	0.9	0.5	
Very difficult	2.5	1.8	7.0	7.4	5.2	5.3	
Difficult	10.9	12.1	17.9	17.1	15.2	15.2	
Few problems	14.8	15.1	26.5	25.5	21.9	21.6	
No problem at all	70.6	69.8	46.2	49.2	55.8	56.9	
Don't know	-	-	1.7	0.7	1.0	0.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

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**Table 10: Distribution of Palestinian Households by Ability of Household Member to Reach Work Place and Region (April 2004)**

Ability to reach place of work	Region and Period						
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	
Impossible	1.9	1.9	3.4	1.7	2.9	1.8	
Very difficult	8.9	8.8	8.0	8.7	8.3	8.7	
Difficult	4.9	3.7	16.0	12.3	12.2	9.4	
Few problems	8.7	8.5	27.0	22.4	20.6	17.5	
No problem at all	73.6	75.0	44.8	54.2	54.7	61.4	
Don't know	2.0	2.1	0.8	0.7	1.3	1.2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

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**Table 11: Distribution of Palestinian Households by Ability to Cultivate Land and Region (April 2004)**

Ability to cultivate land	Region and Time Period					
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory	
	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %	Past Six Months %	Past Month %
Impossible	17.6	17.6	5.8	4.4	7.8	6.6
Very difficult	7.1	8.2	8.5	6.3	8.3	6.7
Difficult	20.6	19.5	14.2	11.0	15.2	12.4
Few problems	5.7	6.9	14.8	15.3	13.3	13.9
No problem at all	43.2	42.0	56.5	63.0	54.3	59.5
Don't know	5.8	5.8	0.2	-	1.1	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

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(2004 )

**Table 12: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Ability of Household Members to Move Around this Week Compared to the Last Week by Region (April 2004)**

Ability for household members to move	Gaza Strip %	West Bank %	Palestinian Territory %
Significantly easier this week	0.8	1.7	1.4
Somewhat easier this week	4.0	12.9	9.8
About the same/ Unchanged	89.4	56.2	67.6
Somewhat harder this week	3.5	18.0	13.0
Significantly harder this week	1.2	6.9	5.0
Don't know	1.1	4.3	3.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

(2004 )

**Table 13: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Ability of Household Members to Move Around Next Month, Next Six Months Compared to this Week and Region, (April 2004)**

The ability of household members to move	Region and Time Period						
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	
Significantly easier	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6	
Somewhat easier	17.9	7.0	22.0	21.0	20.6	16.1	
About the same	74.8	84.4	30.8	35.7	46.1	52.5	
Somewhat harder	3.9	4.7	21.4	23.1	15.3	16.7	
Significantly harder	0.8	1.1	12.4	9.8	8.4	6.8	
Don't know	2.1	2.4	12.5	9.8	8.9	7.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

( )

:14

**Table 14: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Ability to Find a Job by Region, (April 2004)**

The Ability to find a job	Region and Time Period						( )
	Gaza Strip		West Bank		Palestinian Territory		
	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	Next Six Months %	Next Month %	
Very optimistic/ very likely	-	2.8	-	-	-	0.8	( )
Somewhat optimistic/ likely	33.0	15.1	32.4	25.8	32.5	22.8	( )
Neither optimistic/ nor pessimistic	15.1	29.2	14.2	16.1	14.5	19.7	
Somewhat pessimistic/ unlikely	11.3	17.0	12.1	14.5	11.9	15.2	)
Very pessimistic/ very unlikely	16.9	17.0	27.0	30.9	24.2	27.0	)
Don't know	23.7	18.9	14.3	12.7	16.9	14.5	(
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

:15

**Table 15: Distribution of Palestinian Households by the Most Important Need for Household and Region, (April 2004)**

Most important need	Gaza Strip %		West Bank %		Palestinian Territory %		
	Second Need	First Need	Second Need	First Need	Second Need	First Need	
Food	16.4	37.9	21.3	37.3	19.6	37.5	
Clothes	14.5	0.4	12.3	0.2	13.1	0.3	
Education	21.4	6.7	13.9	9.2	16.5	8.3	
Employment	9.3	20.1	9.1	21.2	9.2	20.8	
Financial assistance	25.5	22.8	24.7	18.4	25.0	19.9	
Health	6.5	3.4	15.6	10.2	12.4	7.9	
Housing	3.2	7.4	2.6	3.3	2.8	4.8	( )
Entertainment activities	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.4	
Other	2.0	0.3	-	-	0.7	0.1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

:16

**Table 16: Distribution of Palestinian Households by the Most Important Need of Locality and Region, (April 2004)**

The Most Important Needs	Gaza Strip %	West Bank %	Palestinian Territory %	
Create jobs	58.4	43.4	48.6	
Health Services	8.6	9.8	9.4	
Food assistances	5.4	7.4	6.7	
Education Services	3.7	3.3	3.4	
Infrastructure Project	16.2	21.5	19.7	
No Need	6.1	11.6	9.7	
Don't know	1.6	3.0	2.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

**Table 17: Distribution of Palestinians by their Knowledge about Development Projects Conducted in the Community by Donors and Region, (April 2004)**

Knowledge	Gaza Strip %	West Bank %	Palestinian Territory %	
Yes	14.0	11.9	12.7	
No	86.0	88.1	87.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

(2004 )

**Table 18: The Attitude of Palestinians Toward the Satisfaction on the Development Projects Conducted in the Community and Region, (April 2004)**

Stratification level	Gaza Strip %	West Bank %	Palestinian Territory %	
Very satisfied	39.1	27.9	32.2	
Somewhat satisfied	27.5	40.3	35.4	
Somewhat unsatisfied	10.8	10.4	10.6	
Very unsatisfied	19.6	21.4	20.7	
Don't know	3.0	-	1.1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	



(2004 )

**Table 19: Distribution of Palestinians by the Most Important Infrastructure Needs in the Community and Region, (April 2004)**

<b>The most important needs</b>	<b>Gaza Strip %</b>	<b>West Bank %</b>	<b>Palestinian Territory %</b>	
Electricity	7.5	6.6	6.8	
Roads	18.5	13.0	14.9	
Sewage disposal	22.3	15.8	18.0	
Water supply	12.7	9.0	10.3	
Schools	6.9	9.4	8.5	
Health clinics / hospitals	8.1	16.5	13.7	
No Need	21.5	24.9	23.8	
Don't know	2.5	4.8	4.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	